

CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMISSION

April 16, 2003
Vermillion County EOC
5:00 p.m.

CAC Members present -

Patrick Ralston
Orville Alexander
Richard Setliff
Ray Colombo
Dennis Lewis
Larry Bemis

Mr. Ralston called the meeting to order.

Roll Call - Quorum was present.

Remarks by the co chairman - Mr. Ralston

They have been working to submit the 2003 budget to the Department of Justice. Indiana will be getting approximately eight million dollars, and the money will go to Indiana first responders. Eighty percent of the money will go to local jurisdictions. Each county will get a portion of the money based on population. There will be narrow guidelines on how the money may be spent. From 2003 forward, the money will be passed to local jurisdictions, and local jurisdictions will determine on how the money will be spent. Mr. Ralston said he agrees with this policy. There will be 11 regional response teams. In the 2003 supplemental budget, which is part of the president's war package, there are two versions. Indiana will receive between \$30 and \$37 million. There is a very short time frame to get an application in, and local jurisdictions have 30 days to commit the money.

SEMA received approval to create 17 new positions. The first three will be homeland security planners and are all federally funded positions. No state tax dollars are involved.

They will start in June to redo the statewide strategic plan. The plan was done in 2001 but it is a requirement that it must be updated. This plan will set the stage for any future funding for Indiana. The counties that do not participate will not receive federal dollars. There are two bills in legislature that effect counties. The first is a privacy act that will limit what will be released to the press. They had been thru a very lengthy debate with the Indianapolis Star because they wanted

access to information to threat of vulnerability. Mr. Ralston refused to turn this information over. They finally decided if an executive summary was prepared it would be sufficient. This legislation would make it so this information would not have to be turned over. The strategic plan is a federal document and therefore no one can request it under the Freedom of Information Act. They want to be as open as possible but not so that our enemies could use the information against us.

A statewide mutual aid law has gone to the governor's desk. Indiana will be a mutual aid county. By 2005 the Department of Homeland Security/FEMA will require that every state have a statewide mutual aid law. Indiana and Ohio will be the first two states in the country to have the mutual aid law.

The Hoosier Safety License plate sales were up 50% in January, over 50% in February, in March sales were up over 100%, earning approximately \$32,000. There is a foundation meeting April 22. The Town of Mecca has a grant application in for \$4,000 to repair their community building to be used as their Emergency Operations Center.

Introduction of attendees

Lt. Col. Joseph Marquart, NECD Commander
Glenn Shonkwiler, U. S. Army
Jeff Brubaker, NECDF
Patrick Haas, NECDF
Roxanna Sager, NECD
Lavonna Mattick, Vermillion County Council
Kevin Rudduck, PMATA
Rick Goetz, Parsons
John Stewart, NECDF
Bob Perry, NECDF
Scott Haraburda, NECDF
Jim Harris, NECDF
Jay Kinsley, FEMA Region V
Tom Kutz, NECD
Dennis Lindsey, NECD
Scott Rowden, NECDF
Bob Lintelmen, NECDF
Jim Goodall, Parsons
Jim Seibold, citizen
Leonard Akers, Restoration Advisory Board
Darla Eslinger, Parke County EMA
Faye Coomer, Parke County EMA
Sara Morgan, CAIN
Jim Meece, Parke County Commissioner
Vicki Francis, Vermillion County Emergency Response
Pat Pastore, Tribune Star

Doug Stroud, NECD
Bob Kasper, NECDF
Dave Crose, SEMA, Tech hazards division
Joe Whitaker, Fountain County Emergency Management
Jerry Sears, SEMA
Susan Gilman, Outreach Office
Ginger Corado, Parsons
Terry Arthur, NECD
Bobbette Noggle, Vermillion County Emergency Response
Mary Silotto, Vermillion County Emergency Response
Kathy Haraburda, citizen

Mr. Ralston complimented Pat Pastore on the accuracy of her articles on the program.

Approval of February 2003 minutes - Motion by Ray Colombo with a second by Dick Setliff.

Rick Card - Indianapolis Star mentioned that on Channel 20 at 8:00 p.m. there will be a program on bioterrorism.

Recently the NECD site participated in the CSEPP exercise. There were some findings in 2002 and all have been resolved in the 2003 exercise. Nine new sirens have been installed and are operational. Motorola is progressing with the 800 MHz radio upgrade. IAS radios are 67-70% installed in the IRZ and there are inquiries from PAZ. Rick said if there is an interest from residents in the PAZ, they should be given a radio if that makes them feel safe. Mr. Ralston asked if there was a projected date for 100% completion. Rick doesn't think so because people move in and out of the area. Volunteer firemen are still installing.

Col. Marquart - On April 5 members of the CAC, Vermillion County Commissioner, Sara Morgan, and Emergency Management employees in Fountain, Parke and Vermillion toured the depot facility. The exchange of information was excellent.

It is official that steps 0-1-2 of the former production facility have been completed. Those steps were the precursor to making VX. This has all been brought down by the TVA located there. To be premature, there are efforts to bring the flare tower down sooner than 2006. The former entry control facility at the former production/storage area has been demolished.

The CSEPP exercise from the Depot perspective went excellent. There was excellent communications and more importantly it was a plausible event which caused the Depot to operate and respond to a situation with multiple collateral events. The Colonel is much more confident in the Depot's ability to communicate and exchange information with the three EOCs. The Colonel

introduced three new employees. Robert Max Adams is now emergency operations coordinator for the commander, Tom Kutz is the executive assistant to the Commander at Depot, and Jeff Brubaker, program site manager for NECDF.

Jeff Brubaker - Kevin Flamm could not attend the meeting at Clinton due to the Aberdeen facility going thru final demonstration before destruction. Mr. Brubaker gave a brief statement about his background. He comes from the Army's Chem Demil Program in Edgewood, Maryland working there for the last 15 years in a number of positions. Part of his time he spent working on the startup at Johnston Atoll and Tooele, Utah. He has been working on the Newport project since 1997. Mr. Brubaker thanked those who attended the tour on April 5. A tremendous amount of progress has been made in last four months. Construction of the facility is about 70% complete. Safety is primary importance, and he acknowledged Parsons on their excellent safety record. They have recently passed 2.5 million consecutive hours without a loss time accident.

Status of the project - all the equipment has been installed in the toxic cubicle. Twenty of the 95 systems have been turned over from construction to systemization. Approximately 80% of plant operations and maintenance staff have been hired. Training of operation and maintenance staff continues. To date they have completed approximately 30,000 hours of training out of a total of 70,000 hours. They continue to do safety reviews and walkdowns to identify ways to improve performance and safety. In December their one site lab became certified. Parsons is in the process of going thru and conducting a number of precision and accuracy studies on the methods that will be required for the air monitoring analysis as well as the analysis of the liquid waste.

Future work is focused on transitioning from construction into systemization. Targeting to complete construction by June of this year. This represents a slip of about 2 months. In addition they are continuing to work with NECD staff and Dayton, Ohio site where the treating and disposing of the hydrolysate will take place. The treatment and disposal is contingent on the facility successfully demonstrating a method to treat and dispose of the hydrolysate. Those tests are underway and the results to this point have been very positive. There have been some concerns raised in the Dayton community and public outreach is ongoing.

Susan Gilman - Project updates were presented to the Terre Haute Medical Academy, Cayuga Christian Church, Vermillion County Commissioners, and the Optimist Club. A general toured the facility, as well as the CAC and local Emergency Management. Public outreach with the Dayton community is on going, answering about 200 questions from citizens in this community. They have attended public meetings in Dayton and Permafix has developed a Citizens' Advisory Panel. The Outreach Office will be going to North Vermillion and South Vermillion school with Army band. A crew will be coming out to redevelop a video as an educational tool for community.

Mr. Akers - Requested a copy of the CAC meeting tape and the secretary will provide this. Mr. Akers stated he has not changed his view on safety issues at the Depot. Before the April 5 tour, three days were spent cleaning up before the tour. He is not talking about hard hat safety but rather things that don't show up in the books. When they went thru the CHATS area, some things that wouldn't be obvious if you didn't know what you were looking for, would come under safety issues. He thinks some of the work that has been done is very shoddy. Underneath the units there are crawl space type things and a very tight space. Supposedly the pipes under this have been tested, but he doesn't know. Some things were tagged as a gasket missing but it is more than a gasket missing because it would be physically impossible for them to ever be put together to start with. He doesn't know how they could say they had been tested. Later on the units were put together with a number flexible hoses. Some of these were caustic/agent lines. The Corp of Engineers, as he understands, rejected using the flex connections. They would only allow these for vibration and not to compensate for misalignment. The system was tested with the flex hoses and when they were taken back out, they did not retest. Therefore the integrity of the system was compromised. He is referring not to just a few hoses, but 115 hoses in the system that have not been retested. He still believes there are safety issues, and he doesn't want anyone hurt.

Also, according to the National Board of Safety Codes, all vessels should have a safety release valve. There are no safety release valves called for in the entire design. He is also concerned about trainers and supervisors. In regard to the CSEPP exercise on April 9, the nucleus of the entire thing, was a giant failure on the Parsons side. No one knew where they were going.

Mr. Ralston thanked Mr. Akers for his comments. The community wants the VX disposed of and in a safe and efficient manner. Mr. Akers wants slow and deliberate. Mrs. Morgan appreciate the tour, however, the equipment is very complicated. Seeing this, it has raised a lot of other concerns. Mrs. Morgan asked for time with Parsons and Army after the CAC meeting or on another date to answer a list of questions she had prepared.

Next meeting date - July 9 tentative.

Meeting adjourned - motion by Orville Alexander with second by Ray Colombo.